Coordinates: 45°4′6.20″N 7°41′12.92″E

Turin National University Library

The **National University Library** (*Biblioteca nazionale universitaria* in Italian) in Turin, Italy, is one of the country's main libraries.

It was founded in 1720 as the Royal University Library by Victor Amadeus II, who unified collections from the library of the University of Turin and from the library of the Dukes of Savoy. It was renamed as the National Library in 1872, after Italian unification.

In 1904 a fire[1] destroyed thousands of books and manuscripts from the library. Expertise gained from recovering from the fire was used to train restorers like Erminia Cuadana.[2]

The library was also bombed in December 1942.[3]

At present time it owns over 763,833 books, 1,095 periodicals and 1,600 incunabula.[4]

References

1. LOST MEMORY - LIBRARIES AND ARCHIVES DESTROYED IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY (http://www.unesco.org/webworld/mdm/administ/pdf/LOSTMEMO.PDF) (Archived (https://www.webcitation.org/69rt7I98e?url=http://www.unesco.org/webworld/mdm/administ/pdf/LOSTMEMO.PDF) 2012-08-12 at WebCite)
2. "Incendio del 1904" (http://www.bnto.librari.beniculturali.it/index.php?it/199/incendio-del-1904). *Biblioteca nazionale universitaria di Torino*. Retrieved 20 September 2016.
3. When Memory Turns into Ashes... Memoricide During the XX Century (https://web.archive.org/web/20110927074136/http://libr.org/isc/issues/ISC25/articles/WHEN%20MEMORY%20TURNS%20INTO%20ASHES.pdf)
4. Ministero dei Beni e delle Attività culturali - Ufficio Statistica - Anno 2011 (http://www.statistica.beniculturali.it/rilevazioni/BIBLIOTECHE%20SITO/BIBLIOTECHE%202011/BIBL_TAVOLA2_2011.pdf)

Further reading

- G. Ratti, *Dal libro alla biblioteca. Le biblioteche pubbliche*, Alessandria, Dell'Orso, 1993.

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